



**Claims:** The following is a listing of all claims in the application with their status and the text of all active claims.

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A taste masking composition comprising at least one amino acid component having an unpleasant taste and sucralose in an amount sufficient to mask the unpleasant taste of the at least one amino acid component, wherein said at least one amino acid is not arginine or creatine.
2. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 1 wherein sucralose is present in an amount ranging from about 0.001 to about 15 dry weight % of the composition.
3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 2 wherein sucralose is present in an amount ranging from about 0.1 to about 12 dry weight % of the composition.
4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 3 wherein sucralose is present in an amount ranging from about 0.5 to about 10 dry weight % of the composition.
5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The composition of claim 1 wherein said at least one amino acid is selected from the group consisting of L-alanine, L-aspartic acid, L-citrulline, L-cystine, L-glutamic acid, L-glutamine, L-histidine, L-isoleucine, L-leucine, L-lysine, L-methionine, D,L-methionine, L-~~ornithine~~, ornithine, L-phenylalanine, L-proline, L-serine, L-threonine, L-tryptophan, L-tyrosine, L-valine, ~~creatine~~, carnitine and mixtures thereof.
6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 1 wherein said at least one amino acid component comprises an amino acid analog selected from the group consisting of the hydroxy analogs and keto analogs of the amino acids.
7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 5 wherein said amino acid consists of a mixture of L-leucine, L-isoleucine and L-valine.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 5 wherein said amino acid is L-histidine.
9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 5, wherein said amino acid is a mixture of amino acids selected from the group consisting of L-histidine, L-isoleucine, L-leucine, L-lysine, L-methionine, L-phenylalanine, L-threonine, L-tryptophan, L-tyrosine and L-valine.
10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 9 wherein said amino acid consists of a mixture of L-leucine, L-isoleucine and L-valine.
11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A taste masking composition comprising at least one protein hydrolysate component having an unpleasant taste and sucralose in an amount sufficient to mask the unpleasant taste of the at least one protein hydrolysate component.
12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 11 wherein sucralose is present in an amount of from about 0.001 to about 15 dry weight % of the composition.
13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 12 wherein sucralose is present in an amount ranging from about 0.1 to about 12 dry weight % of the composition.
14. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 13 wherein sucralose is present in a amount ranging from about 0.5 to about 10 dry weight % of the composition.
15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A taste masking composition comprising at least one protein component having an unpleasant taste and sucralose in an amount sufficient to mask the unpleasant taste of the at least one protein component.
16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 15 wherein sucralose is present in an amount ranging from about 0.001 to about 15 dry weight % of the composition.

17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 16 wherein sucralose is present in an amount ranging from about 0.1 to about 12 dry weight % of the composition.
18. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composition of claim 17 wherein sucralose is present in an amount ranging from about 0.5 to about 10 dry weight % of the composition.
19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of masking the unpleasant taste of an amino acid component in an amino acid containing composition, said method comprising adding to a composition containing at least one unpleasant tasting amino acid sucralose in an amount sufficient to mask the unpleasant taste of the at least one amino acid, wherein said at least one amino acid component is not arginine or creatine.
20. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 19 wherein sucralose is added in an amount ranging from about 0.001 to about 15 dry weight % of the composition.
21. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 20 wherein sucralose is added in an amount ranging from about 0.1 to about 12 dry weight % of the composition.
22. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 21 wherein sucralose is added in an amount ranging from about 0.5 to about 10 dry weight % of the composition.
23. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 19 wherein said at least one amino acid is selected from the group consisting of L-alanine, L-aspartic acid, L-citrulline, L-cystine, L-glutamic acid, L-glutamine, L-histidine, L-isoleucine, L-leucine, L-lysine, L-methionine, D,L-methionine, L-~~ornithine~~ ornithine, L-phenylalanine, L-proline, L-serine, L-threonine, L-tryptophan, L-tyrosine, L-valine, ~~creatine~~, carnitine and mixtures thereof.
24. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 19 wherein said at least one amino acid comprises an amino acid analog selected from the group consisting of the hydroxy analogs and keto analogs of the amino acids.

25. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 23 wherein said amino acid consists of a mixture of L-leucine, L-isoleucine and L-valine.

26. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 23 wherein said amino acid is L-histidine.

27. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 23 wherein said amino acid is a mixture of amino acids selected from the group consisting of L-histidine, L-isoleucine, L-leucine, L-lysine, L-methionine, L-phenylalanine, L-threonine, L-tryptophan, L-tyrosine and L-valine.

28. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 27 wherein said amino acid consists of a mixture of L-leucine, L-isoleucine and L-valine.

29. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method of masking the unpleasant taste of a protein component in a protein containing composition, said method comprising adding to a composition containing at least one unpleasant tasting protein sucralose in an amount sufficient to mask the unpleasant taste of the at least one protein.

30. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 29 wherein sucralose is added in an amount of from about 0.001 to about 15 dry weight % of the composition.

31. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 30 wherein sucralose is added in an amount ranging from about 0.1 to about 12 dry weight % of the composition.

32. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 31 wherein sucralose is added in a amount ranging from about 0.5 to about 10 dry weight % of the composition.

33. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method of masking the unpleasant taste of a protein hydrolysate component in a protein hydrolysate containing composition, said method

comprising adding to a composition containing at least one unpleasant tasting protein hydrolysate sucralose in an amount sufficient to mask the unpleasant taste of the at least one protein.

34. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 33 wherein sucralose is added in an amount of from about 0.001 to about 15 dry weight % of the composition.

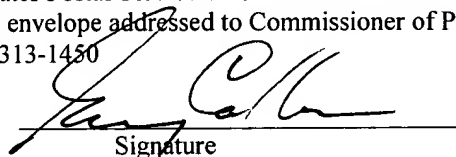
35. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 34 wherein sucralose is added in an amount ranging from about 0.1 to about 12 dry weight % of the composition.

36. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 35 wherein sucralose is present in a amount ranging from about 0.5 to about 10 dry weight % of the composition.

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